

## Message Text

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14

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APPROVED BY:RASORENSEN

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

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FOR UNDER SECRETARY ROGERS FROM SORENSON

FOLLOWING REPEAT KUWAIT 5583 ACTION SECSTATE, ABU DHABI, ALGIERS,  
CARACAS, DOHA, JAKARTA, JIDDA, LAGOS, LIBREVILLE, PARIS, QUITO,  
SANA, TEHRAN, TRIPOLI, VIENNA, OECD PARIS, EC BRUSSELS,  
BAGHDAD (BY POUCH) DTD 29 NOV 76.

QTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, ECIN, OAPEC

SUBJECT: KUWAIT OAPEC MINISTERS MEETING: OIL PRICING

REF: (A) KUWAIT 5513, (B) KUWAIT 5501

1. THE ORGANIZATION OF ARAB PETROLEUM EXPORTING COUNTRIES (OAPEC)  
HELD ITS SEVENTEENTH MINISTERIAL CONFERENCE IN KUWAIT NOVEMBER 23-24  
AMIDST ANTICIPATION THAT THE MINISTERS MIGHT COORDINATE PRICING  
STRATEGY PRIOR TO THE DECEMBER OPEC MEETING AT DOHA. AT A PRESS  
CONFERENCE AT END OF MEETINGS NOV. 24, OAPEC SECRETARY GENERAL  
ALI ATEEQA STATE FLATLY THAT THE CONFERENCE DID NOT DISCUSS  
PRICES. ATEEQA'S DENIAL OF COURSE DOES NOT PRECLUDE CORRIDOR  
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CONVERSATIONS.

2. ON LATTER POSSIBILITY, USUALLY AUTHORIATIVE MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (MEES) CORRESPONDENT IAN SEYMOUR, WHO COVERED CONFERENCE AFTER WEEK'S STAY IN KUWAIT, COMMENTED TO EMBOFF THAT ON PRICE MATTERS THE FOUR KEY OPEC COUNTRIES ARE IRAN, VINEZUELA, ALGERIA, AND SAUDI ARABIA, THE LATTER TWO BEING THE KEY OAPEC COUNTRIES. IF THERE WERE ANY MEANINGFUL PRICE DISCUSSIONS WITHIN OAPEC CONTEXT, IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETWEEN ALGERIA'S ABDESSELAM, WHO ATTENDED KUWAIT OAPEC MEETING, AND SAUDI ARABIA'S YAMANI, WITH OTHER OAPEC MEMBERS LARGELY GOING ALONG WITH THE ALGERIAN OR SAUDI POSITIONS. BECAUSE YAMANI DID NOT ATTEND, SEYMOUR TOLD EMBOFF, HE DOUBTED ANY SERIOUS DISCUSSION OF PRICE HAD TAKEN OR COULD TAKE PLACE.

3. A NUMBER OF OAPEC MINISTERS OBLIGED REPORTERS COVERING THE EVENT BY COMMENTING ON THE PRICE ISSUE. LIBYA'S OIL MINISTER MABRUK REPORTEDLY SAID THAT OPEC "SHOULD DECIDE TO REVISE THE PRICE OF OIL UPWARD BY THE 26.2PCT FIXED BY THE OPEC ECONOMIC COMMISSION." QATAR'S OIL MINISTER REPORTEDLY SUPPORTED THE LIBYAN, BUT ADDED THAT HE WOULD BE SATISFIED WITH A MINIMUM 15 PCT PRICE INCREASE. ABU DHABI'S OTEIBA, ON THE OTHER HAND, SAID PRICE INCREASE SHOULD BE LIMITED TO 10 PCT SO AS NOT TO HURT WORLD ECONOMY OR GIVE WRONG SIGNAL TO NEW U.S. ADMINISTRATION. OTEIBA ALSO TOLD PRESS THAT OPEC CONFERENCE WOULD BE DELAYED

TO DECEMBER 20 IN ORDER TO ALLOW SOME ARAB OIL MINISTERS TO ATTEND CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (CIEC) BEGINNING DEC. 15, IN PARIS.

4. RESULTS OF DISCUSSIONS OF AGENDA ITEMS BY SEPARATE MESSAGE.  
SUTHERLAND  
UNQTE: ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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**TAGS:** ENRG, ECIN, XF, OAPC  
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